modified/withdrawn as warranted from time to time.

**Taping of Phones by Delhi Police**

1860. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Police has been taping conversations on cellular phones which is in violation of the orders of the Supreme Court; and

(b) if so, the reasons for violating the orders of the Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Special protection to Women under Cr. P.C.**

1861. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission of India has made recommendations in its 154th report on the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, for giving special protection to women;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to accept and implement them in the larger interest of women; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The matter is receiving attention of the Government.

**Recommendations of NHRC on daily diet to undertrials prisoners**

1862. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission had recommended to the States to provide daily diet worth Rs. 12 or 16 to all the undertrial prisoners;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations;

(c) the value of diet presently given to the prisoners; and

(d) by when the said recommendations would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) The National Human Rights Commission has worked out a suitable diet chart in consultation with National Nutrition Institute, Hyderabad. Keeping in view minimum food requirements as per food habits in different regions, a balanced diet chart was prepared for persons held in police custody. Though both vegetarian and non-vegetarian scales were worked out, the Commission recommended only vegetarian diet and the cost comes to Rs. 16/- per day. The Chairman, National Human Rights Commission has written to all the Chief Ministers of States on October 25, 1996, to revise the diet allowance of the prisoners in police lock-ups and endorsed the views of the National Nutrition Institute, Hyderabad.

(c) and (d) 'Prisons' being a State subject, State Governments run their administration as per the provision contained in their State Jail Manuals. Each State has its own standard as per the local requirements for the diet given to the prisoners. The Central Government does not maintain figure relating to the value of diet given in each State. This being a State subject, it is for

the State Governments to accept/ implement the recommendations of the National Human Rights Commission.

**Improving the Traffic System in Delhi**

1863. SHRI MOHINDAR SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government to improve the traffic system in Delhi and other Metropolitan cities to reduce deaths on roads and move the traffic systematically;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if no steps is being taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (c) The comprehensive action plan drawn up by the Delhi Police to ensure orderly movement of traffic on the roads in Delhi envisages strict enforcement of traffic rules, creating an awareness amongst the public for observance of traffic rules and execution of appropriate engineering works (*i.e.* traffic signals, road dividers, road markings, etc.) in a phased manner. The Lt. Governor of Delhi has also recently constituted a Committee on Traffic Management Task Force (TMTF) under his Chairmanship to evolve solutions for bringing out improvement in traffic management.

The management of traffic in other metropolitan cities falls within the purview of the State Governments concerned.

**Smuggling of Antiques from India**

1864. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: SHRI O.P. KOHLI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that smuggling of antiques from Indian temples and other historical places etc. to foreign countries has been going on for years together and of late, such activities have increased alarmingly;

(b) if so, the details of the prominent cases including of auction of antiques by Sotheby's persons involved and penalized; and

(c) the action Government have taken or propose to take in future to curb such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Negotiations with insurgents in the North-East Region**

1865. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals are on the anvil to enter into further negotiations with the insurgents in the North-Eastern States; and

(b) the minimum terms and conditions on the basis of which such negotiations are intended to be initiated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) The Government have extended an open invitation to any group of individuals including militants to discuss their legitimate grievances, without any pre-condition.